

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 06307 231913Z

44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-04

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R 211913Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

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TAGS: ENRG, TECH, XM, XL

SUBJ: 4TH MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN MINISTERS OF
ENERGY AND PETROLEUM

1. SUMMARY. THE 4TH MEETING OF LATIN MINISTERS OF ENERGY

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 06307 231913Z

AND PETROLEUM BEGAN IN BUENOS AIRES ON AUGUST 19. THE CUBAN

REPRESENTATIVE WAS ELECTED AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING. THE AGENDA INCLUDES TOPICS RELATED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECRETARIAT AND MEANS OF FINANCING THE LATAM ENERGY ORGANIZATION, OLADE. ARGENTINE ECONOMY MINISTER GELBARD OPENED THE DELIBERATIONS WITH SOME EXHORTATIONS TOWARD LATAM UNITY AND AGAINST SUPERPOWER IMPERIALISM. SEVEN COUNTRIES HAVE RATIFIED THE OLADE TREATY TO DATE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE 4TH MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN MINISTERS OF PETROLEUM AND ENERGY WAS OPENED IN BUENOS AIRES ON AUGUST 19 AND WILL CONTINUE THROUGH AUGUST 23. THE MEETING WAS CANCELLED BY THE LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY ORGANIZATION (OLADE). HOST COUNTRIES OF ALL INFO ADDRESSEE POSTS (EXCEPT GUYANA) PLUS CUBA ARE REPRESENTED.

3. AGENDA IS (A) PRESENT STATUS OF RATIFICATIONS OF CONSTITUTIVE AGREEMENT OF OLADE; (B) "INSTRUMENTATION" OF THE COORDINATING SECRETARIAT; (C) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MEMBER STATES; (D) CREATION OF THE FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION OF OLADE; (E) SUPPLY OF HYDROCARBONS TO THE LATIN AMERICAN REGION; (F) INVENTORY OF TECHNOLOGY IN LATIN AMERICA; (G) DATE AND PLACE OF 5TH MINISTERIAL MEETING.

4. ARGENTINE ENERGY SECRETARY HERMINIO SBARRA WAS ELECTED AS MEETING PRESIDENT; AND CUBAN MINERALS, FUELS & METALLURGY MINISTER MANUAL CESPEDAS AS VICE PRESIDENT. CESPEDAS WAS NOMINATED BY THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATE.

5. IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT, SBARRA STATED THAT "EACH NATION HAS THE RIGHT TO THE SOVEREIGN USE OF ITS NATURAL RESOURCES. BUT THE RIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL LIVELIHOOD IMPOSES THE OBLIGATION TOWARD COLLECTIVE SURVIVAL". HE WISHED THE MEETING SUCCESS, NOTING THAT LATAM "AWAITS IT. THE WORLD WATCHES US: IT IS THE HOUR OF LATIN AMERICA".

6. WHILE PRESIDENT MARIA ESTELA DE PERON HAD BEEN INVITED TO OFFICIALLY OPEN THE MEETING, SHE DID NOT PARTICIPATE, AND THIS WAS DONE INSTEAD BY ECONOMY MINISTER JOSE B. GELBARD. GELBARD'S SPEECH TOOK NOTE OF PERON'S OFT-QUOTED STATEMENT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BUENOS 06307 231913Z

THAT THE YEAR 2000 WILL FIND LATIN AMERICA UNITED OR DOMINATED. GELBARD INDICATED THAT OLADE'S CREATION COINCIDED WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF LATAM FOR "RATIONAL USE OF ENERGETIC RESOURCES AND TO ASSOCIATE SO AS TO AVOID THE USUFRUCT THAT THE SUPERPOWERS MADE OF THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES".

7. REFERRING TO NECESSARY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE DC'S, GELBARD INDICATED THAT THE COUNTRIES REPRESENTED "WERE

UNDERDEVELOPED. OR, IN THE BEST CASES, DEVELOPING. A DEVELOPMENT, UNTIL NOW, CONDITIONED TO THE INTERESTS AND THE WILL OF THE SUPERPOWERS AND OF THE MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, WHICH AT TIMES EVEN MANAGE TO PLACE THEIR OWN INTERESTS ABOVE THOSE OF THE SUPERPOWERS UNDER WHOSE FLAGS THEY ACT. BECAUSE OF THIS, THE LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE DECIDED TO BREAK THAT DEPENDENCY. TO ACQUIRE THAT MATURITY THAT IS DENIED US SYSTEMATICALLY".

8. GELBARD OBSERVED THAT "ENERGY, AND PRINCIPALLY PETROLEUM HAD BEEN THE CAUSE OF CONFLICTS AND WERE THROUGHOUT HISTORY. AND MANY OF THE WARRING COUNTRIES HAD BEEN, WITHOUT KNOWING OR WANTING IT, THE USEFUL IDIOTS OF IMPERIALISM".

9. ONLY SEVEN COUNTRIES HAVE SO FAR RATIFIED THE OLADE TREATY: BOLIVIA, JAMAICA, ECUADOR, PERU, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, GUYANA AND CUBA.

10 ECUADOR IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE MADE A STRONG STATEMENT THAT PETROLEUM MATTERS SHOULD NOT BE TREATED IN INTERAMERICAN FORA, SUCH AS THE OAS. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE EXCLUSION OF THE U.S. FROM OLADE HAD PROVOKED STRONG EXPRESSIONS IN SUCH INSTITUTIONS AS ECLA. U.S. REPS THERE HAD, RESPORTEDLY, STRONGLY OPPOSED ANY MENTION OF OLADE.

11. ARGENTINA ITSELF HAS YET TO RATIFY THE OLADE TREATY. WHOLE PUSHED VIGOROUSLY BY THE GOA, THE CONGRESS HAS BALKED, PRINCIPALLY OVER A CLAUSE WHICH SOME INTERPRET HERE AS FAVORING THE BRAZILIAN VS. THE ARGENTINE POSITION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH REGIONAL RIVER SYSTEMS AS THE PARANA.

12. IN ADDITION TO THE MEETINGS, OTHER EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR THE VISITORS INCLUDE A VISIT TO GCT HQ, AND OPTIONAL VISITS
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PAGE 04 BUENOS 06307 231913Z

TO THE ATUCHA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT; THE YPF REFINERY AT LUJAN DE CUYO; THE EL CHOCON DAM AND HYDROELECTRIC PLANT; AND THE BARILOCHE ATOMIC CENTER.
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